

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 /031 W  
-----130928Z 067490 /21

R 121425Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4565

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1284

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV PFOR EAIR WB US UK FR

SUBJ: CIVAIR IGS FAIRE INCREASE

REFS: A) BONN 7459; B) USBER 815 (EXDIS); C) 76 USBER 2224

1. ALL MAJOR BERLIN NEWSPAPERS CARRIED STORY APRIL 30 THAT THREE ALLIED SCHEDULED CARRIERS HAD REQUESTED "SEVEN PERCENT" FARE INCREASE. ARTICLES COMPARED PROPOSAL TO LUFTHANSA FARE INCREASE WHICH WENT INTO EFFECT 1 APRIL, AND ALSO NOTED THAT LUFTHANSA PASSENGERS PAY 47.9 PFENNIGS PER KILOMETER, WHEREAS IGS PASSENGERS PAY 28 PFENNIGS, A COMPARISON WHICH WAS PROVIDED NEWSPAPERS REPORTERS BY A SPOKESMAN FOR BRITISH AIRWAYS. "MORGENPOST" QUOTED BERLIN SENAT SOURCE AS SAYING HIGHER PRICES WOULD COME INTO EFFECT JUNE 1 AT THE EARLIEST. THE SENAT WOULD "VERY CAREFULLY EXAMINE THE REQUEST FOR HIGHER PRICES AND POSSIBLY RAISE OBJECTIONS". "MORGENPOST" ALSO SAID SPOKESMAN OF BRITISH EMBASSY BONN HAD CONFIRMED PRICE INCREASE APPLICATIONS.

2. ONE NEWSPAPER ("WELT") QUOTES PANAM DIRECTOR  
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BERNACCHIA AS EXPLAINING FARE INCREASE ON GROUNDS OF INCREASED FUEL AND LABOR COSTS.

3. COMMENT: THERE HAS BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE FARE INCREASE TO DATE. IN THE PAST MOST VOCAL CRITICISM OF FARE INCREASE HAVE COME FROM BERLIN POLITICIANS, WHO ARE NOW UNDERSTANDABLY TOO DISTRACTED

BY TURMOIL CAUSED BY RESIGNATION OF GOVERNING MAYOR TO  
PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO MATTER. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT IF  
THE FARE INCREASE IS FIRMLY JUSTIFIED BY INCREASED COSTS,  
THE MAGNITUDE OF GENUINELY ADVERSE REACTION WOULD  
DEPEND SIGNIFICANTLY ON THE FORM BY WHICH THE FARE INCREASES WERE  
INTRODUCED RATHER THAN THE SUBSTANCE OF ITS JUSTIFICATION. RECAL-  
LING NOW-GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE'S RATHER IMPASSIONED DENUNCI-  
TION OF THE EXISTING PROCEDURE FOR INFORMING THE GERMANS  
ABOUT FARE INCREASES (REF B AND C), WE EXPECT IF A PERFUNCTORY  
HANDLING OF THE MATTER WERE AVOIDED, THE ADVERSE REACTION COULD  
BE MINIMIZED. THIS VIEW OF COURSE BRINGS US HARD AGAINST  
THE DILEMMA OF ENGAGING GERMANS IN WHAT ARE AFTER ALL  
THE RESERVED RIGHTS OF THE ALLIED POWERS. GEROGE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 BONN 7459, 77 USBERLIN 815, 76 USBERLIN 2224  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** CIVAIR IGS FAIRE INCREASE  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, EAIR, WB, US, UK, FR, BRITISH AIRWAYS, PANAM  
**To:** BONN  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c28b3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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